

### **REMARKS**

Applicants have amended the first page of the specification of the above-identified application in order to identify a prior application being relied upon under 35 USC §120 in the above-identified application, in order to identify this prior application as a national stage application of an International Application, and in order to incorporate the subject matter of the prior U.S. application by reference in the above-identified application, in its entirety. Noting particularly that the Declaration under 37 CFR §1.63 of the above-identified application is a copy of the Declaration under 37 CFR §1.63 filed in No. 09/380,735, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments do not include new matter.

Entry of the present amendments, prior to examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

In addition, the undersigned notes the concurrently filed Letter, discussing the original claims of the above-identified application, and noting that a Supplemental Preliminary Amendment will be filed with claims to be considered on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, consideration of the above-identified application, subsequent to entry of the claims to be considered on the merits in the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to

Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing case No. 501.37436CV2) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal stroke that tapers to the right.

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